

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
SP-02 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 OMB-01 L-03 AGRE-00
/057 W

-----071131Z 096171 /10

O R 071054Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2955

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: BENC, BEXP, IR
SUBJ: KANDAHAR CEMENT PLANT

REF: (A) KABUL 3374, (B) TEHRAN 5018

1. GREEF OF FULLER PER REFTEL (A) PASSES FOLLOWING MESSAGE
TO EMBASSY STAFF:

2. QUOTE. BECAUSE OF RECENT ECONOMIC MISSION TO PAKISTAN
FOLLOWED BY ECONOMIC MISSION TO AFGHANISTAN, THE IRANIAN
MINISTRIES OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE
TO SEE US.

3. QUOTE. WE HAVE HEARD INFORMALLY THROUGH OUR IRANIAN
ASSOCIATES THAT THE RESULTS OF THE MEETINGS LAST WEEK
BETWEEN THE AFGHANS AND THE IRANIANS WITH RESPECT TO THE
CEMENT PLANT WERE AS FOLLOWS:

A. QUOTE. IRAN STATED THEY NEVER INTENDED TO
PROVIDE MERELY THE TOTAL FUNDS FOR A CEMENT PLANT BUT
RATHER TO HELP AFGHANISTAN TO OBTAIN A CEMENT PLANT.

B. QUOTE. IRAN FEELS THEY NOW HAVE MANY FACILITIES
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AND SERVICES THAT COULD BE UTILIZED IN THE BUILDING OF A
CEMENT PLANT. SUCH THINGS AS ENTIRE ENGINEERING, PROJECT
MANAGEMENT, SOME MACHINERY AND SUPPLIES, AND POSSIBLY
CONSTRUCTION MIGHT BE SUPPLIED FROM IRAN. THE MAJOR
MACHINERY MIGHT THEN BE SUPPLIED BY THE FULLER COMPANY.

4. QUOTE. WE QUESTIONED THE PRACTICALITY OF AN ARRANGE-

MENT OF THIS SORT AS IT APPEARS ALL OF THESE IRANIAN SERVICES ARE COMPLETELY OVERLOADED WITH PRESENT IRAN PROJECTS AND THIS CONDITION COULD EXIST FOR SEVERAL YEARS.

5. QUOTE. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT IF AFGHANISTAN REALLY WANTS A CEMENT PLANT THEY WILL HAVE TO ARRANGE TO PAY FOR IT THEMSELVES.

6. QUOTE. WE HAVE TALKED TO BANK WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SUPPLYING LOAN BUT ONLY IF IRANIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD GUARANTEE LOAN. WE HAVE NO IDEA WHETHER IRAN WOULD DO THIS. MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND FINANCE AGREED TO IN PRINCIPLE.

7. INCIDENTALLY A MR. KELLEY OF NYCB IS EXPECTED TO VISIT KABUL THIS WEEK AND YOU MAY BE INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING THIS WITH HIM. PLEASE ADVISE THE REACTION IN AFGHANISTAN TO THIS CEMENT PROJECT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. UNQUOTE.

8. FYI: MEAF OFFICIAL CONFIRMED THAT GOI HAS AGREED TO PROJECT IN PRINCIPLE. SEE REPORT ON IRAN-AFGHANISTAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS (REF B).

MIKLOS

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